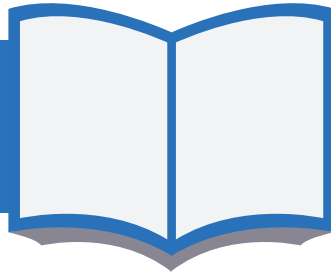


Participant Handouts

Scenarios



Scenario 1 Worksheet: Demonstration

This year, I started college in a new city and rented my very first apartment. Unfortunately, only a week after I moved in, everything started to go wrong. The fridge and plumbing stopped working and the front door won't even lock. I checked my lease agreement and it says that my landlord is not responsible for any maintenance or repairs. This seems unfair, but I did sign the agreement. What should I do?

Start on the Steps to Justice topic, "Landlord and Tenant Board" with the question, "Can I take my landlord to the LTB if they won't fix something?"

- Can I take my landlord to the LTB if they won't fix the broken items in my apartment?
- Can I be compensated for money I had to spend to fix the problems that my landlord refused to fix?
- Since I signed the agreement, is my landlord off the hook?
- How can I make sure the LTB knows exactly what it is that I want my landlord to do to remedy the situation?
- If I can't afford the filing fee for my LTB application, what can I do?



Scenario 2 Worksheet

I've been working at a store downtown for a year. About 3 months ago, the store began to run into financial difficulties. The store owner told me that, despite my contract indicating that I would earn \$25/hour, they would only be able to pay me \$15/hour, and would have to compensate me for the difference later. I wasn't happy, but I really needed any money I could get, so I didn't protest.

Last week, the owner told me that she was letting me go. She didn't give me any explanation why, but I think it was to cut costs. I asked for the money that I was owed from all the hours that I had worked at a reduced rate. The owner got angry and acted like she had no idea what I was talking about. I've tried reaching out to her to settle this, but she's blocked my number. By my calculations, she owes me about \$5,000. What should I do?

Start on the Steps to Justice topic, "Landlord and Tenant Board" with the question, "How do I sue my former employer in small claims court?"

- What legal avenues could this person pursue against their former employer to recover their lost wages?
- Which court would hear this employee's case?
- Can this person file their lawsuit against their employer at any Small Claims Court location?
- How will the employer (the defendant) know that this person is suing them in Small Claims Court?
- When does this person have to serve their employer, and how can they do so?



Scenario 3 Worksheet

My fiancé and I lived together for about 8 months. A couple of months ago, his demeanor completely changed. He was angry all the time and would yell at me constantly. The last straw was when he got particularly angry and threw a plate at me. I moved out and have cut off all contact with him. He's started showing up at my workplace to convince me to move back in with him. He even threatened to hurt me if I didn't agree. I'm done with him and don't want him anywhere near me. What should I do?

Start on the Steps to Justice topic, "Courts and partner abuse" with the question, "What is the difference between a restraining order and a peace bond?"

- What legal mechanisms might be available to this person to keep their ex-partner away from them?
- What do these orders do and what is the difference?
- Are there services available to provide urgent legal assistance to people facing abuse or violence from family members or partners?
- If this person wants an order from the court to keep their partner away from them, but cannot wait for a trial in Family court, are there other mechanisms available to obtain an order?
- What is an urgent motion, and what would this person need to demonstrate to the court in order to be granted one?



Scenario 4 Worksheet

Taylor and Jaime have been married for several years but have decided to split up. Unfortunately, they are unable to agree about many things, including who gets to keep the house, how they should arrange custody of their children, and who should pay child support and in what amount. They have decided to take their disputes to court, since they cannot come to any resolutions on their own.

For these questions, start on the Steps to Justice topic, “Family court” with the subtopic, “Types of case conferences”.

- Do family court matters usually go directly to a trial?
- What sorts of conferences might Taylor and Jaime attend throughout the dispute resolution process?
- What are the goals of case, settlement and trial management conferences?

For these questions, start on the Steps to Justice topic, “Family court” with the subtopic, “Types of case conferences”.

- If the dispute does go to trial, how will the judge make their decision?
- What happens after trial?



Scenario 5 Worksheet

I suffer from a chronic illness which prevents me from working. For several years now, I have been receiving financial help through the Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP). However, recently, I received a letter from my local ODSP office saying that they had decided I was no longer eligible for the program and that I would stop receiving support. My situation has not changed so I don't understand why they made this decision. What can I do to make them continue my support?

For these questions, start on the Steps to Justice topic, "Appealing a decision" with the question, "I disagree with an ODSP decision. What can I do?"

- What is the Social Benefits Tribunal (SBT)?
- Can people appeal this kind of decision?
- Is there anything this person should do before appealing to the SBT? Is there anything they must do?
- Can this person receive support while waiting for the outcome of the SBT appeal process?
- What can be done to prepare to attend an SBT appeal hearing?